

FIGHT LIES BETWEEN TAFT AND WILSON

With Roosevelt's Chances Hopeless, Republicans and Democrats Must Settle the Question of Who Shall Be Elected.

COUNT ON PRESIDENT'S SUCCESS

Review of Conditions in Every State Convinces Party Leaders That the Chief Executive Is Bound to Win—Effect of Outcome on Congress of Great Importance.

The national campaign which will end on Tuesday is, quite apart from the intense interest which attaches to the three-sided Presidential race, of the utmost importance in the effect its outcome will have on the Senate, as well as on the House of Representatives.

In the present Senate the Republicans have a majority of seven votes, with vacancies in the representation of Illinois, Idaho and Colorado. A loss of two Senators as the result of the approaching election would reduce the Republican total to forty-eight, one less than a majority of the whole Senate.

The terms of thirty-two Senators expire on March 4. Some of these are from assumed Democratic states, while others are from states which are in doubt. Those which may be assumed to be hanging in the balance are the following:

Oklahoma, which is to elect a successor to Senator Owen (Dem.); West Virginia, which is to elect a successor to Senator Watson (Dem.); Colorado, which is to elect a successor to Senator Guggenheim (Rep.); and fill the present vacancy; Delaware, which is to elect a successor to Senator Richardson (Rep.); Idaho, which is to elect successors to Senators Borah and Heyburn (Reps.); Illinois, which is to elect a successor to Senator Cullom (Rep.) and a Senator to the place made vacant by the expulsion of Mr. Lorimer; Iowa, which is to elect a successor to Senator Kenyon (Rep.); Kansas, which is to elect a successor to Senator Curtis (Rep.); Massachusetts, which is to elect a successor to Senator Crane (Rep.); Michigan, which is to elect a successor to Senator Smith (Rep.); Minnesota, which is to elect a successor to Senator Nelson (Rep.); Nebraska, which is to elect a successor to Senator Bristow (Rep.); New Hampshire, which is to elect a successor to Senator Burnham (Rep.); New Jersey, which will elect a successor to Senator Briggs (Rep.); Oregon, which will elect a successor to Senator Bourne (Rep.); Rhode Island, which will elect a successor to Senator Wetmore (Rep.); South Dakota, which will elect a successor to Senator Gamble (Rep.); and Wyoming, which will elect a successor to Senator Warren (Rep.).

States That Are Sure.

Tennessee will elect two Senators as the result of the death of Senator Taylor, but there are few who believe the Legislature of that state will be other than Democratic. Nevada will also have a vacancy, resulting from the death of Senator Nixon (Rep.), whose seat is now filled by W. A. Massey (Rep.).

Of the other states named there are few who do not concede that Wyoming will go Republican and re-elect Senator Warren, and comparatively few who do not expect to see a Republican elected to succeed Senator Crane of Massachusetts. Maine has already elected its Legislature, and as the majority is Republican, a Senator from that party will succeed Senator Gardner.

The entire membership of the House, of course, will be determined at the coming election. The present membership of the House is 333, but that of the House in the new Congress will be 335.

Aside from the states of the "solid South," almost every state in the Union is claimed by all three of the contending parties. The real contest, however, appears to be between the Republican and Democratic parties, and while most of the states are more or less doubtful, those which stand out as prominently so are Arizona, Colorado, Delaware, Indiana, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, New Jersey, Nebraska, North Dakota and West Virginia.

While both Democrats and Republicans claim Nebraska, Oregon and Oklahoma, both concede that there may be some ground for claiming them for the third party, and California, where the Republicans have been disfranchised, as well, but both are convinced that the third party stands no show of carrying any states other than those named.

New York the Pivotal State.

Perhaps to a greater extent than ever New York is this year a pivotal state. At no time has there been any likelihood of the state giving its electoral vote to Roosevelt, but it is admitted that the third party candidate for Governor, Oscar Straus, looms large on the political horizon. Mr. Straus, it is admitted, is likely to poll a large vote among the members of his own race.

It is claimed, however, that most of those who will vote for Mr. Straus from racial reasons will also vote for Mr. Taft. Intense gratitude is felt to Mr. Taft by the Jews because of his pre-eminent fairness to their race, because he denounced the treaty with Russia as soon as it became obvious that negotiations to secure from Russia just treatment of the Jews were futile, and because the course of Mr. Taft has been substantially recognized by the B'nai B'rith, which in international council awarded to President Taft a medal, indicating that they regarded him as the one man in the world who had done most for their race.

For a time the antagonism engendered among the farmers by Mr. Taft's advocacy of Canadian reciprocity seemed likely to prove inimical to his

interests, especially in the border counties, but the effective work done by ex-Governor Bacheiler, master of the National Grange, who led the opposition to reciprocity, and who has taken pains to make it clear that so long as reciprocity was an issue Mr. Roosevelt did everything in his power to bring it about, and that he never dreamed of opposing it until he thought he could do so to his political advantage, has largely offset the third party's work in that regard.

Reports received at the Taft headquarters indicate that many Democratic farmers purpose to vote for Mr. Taft. State Chairman Barnes, as the result of extensive polls he has conducted and which have not failed to prove accurate in the past, is convinced that Mr. Taft will carry the Empire State by from 50,000 to 75,000 majority, a confidence which is shared by all the Republican leaders. New York's forty-five votes in the Electoral College would, of course, go far toward securing for the President the 267 votes which will constitute a majority in the Electoral College.

Pennsylvania Republicans Confident.

Pennsylvania, with its thirty-eight votes, stands next to New York in order of importance, and it is, of course, a strong Republican state. This year, however, the determination of "Boss" Plinn to capture the Republican name and emblem and to prevent the placing on the ballot of Republican electors who would vote for Mr. Taft seriously delayed the opening of the campaign, took up an inordinate share of the time of Chairman Hilles and actually curtailed the state campaign to about three weeks. Even with this short campaign, however, the state leaders are confident the Keystone State will be found in the Republican column, as usual, and J. Hampton Moore, who has been conducting the Taft fight, makes glowing predictions as to the outcome.

Pennsylvania does not elect a Governor this year, so that the attention of the people is pretty well concentrated on the national issues. With large manufacturing interests and the prospect that these would be seriously injured by Democratic tariff revision, the leaders appear to have reason for the faith that is in them that Taft will carry Pennsylvania.

New Jersey in Doubtful List.

New Jersey, being the home of Governor Wilson, might naturally be expected to give him a handsome majority, but this is hardly likely. The Democratic candidate is not well liked in his home state, and if he carries it, as is not improbable, he will do so by default rather than by virtue. In other words, if Mr. Wilson carries New Jersey he will do so because the normal Republican strength has been sapped by the division in that party. The state gave Mr. Taft a plurality of nearly eighty-three thousand four years ago. It is true that this was overturned and that Governor Wilson was elected two years ago by a majority of forty-nine thousand, but the tariff was not then involved.

In the estimation of ex-Governor Murphy, New Jersey may safely be placed in the Taft column, and the workers in the state generally are confident, but party lines are so far broken down this year that it is safe only to put the state in the doubtful column.

Uncertain About Maine.

Of the New England states the Republican leaders are confident of all except Maine, and that they put in the doubtful column. That Governor Wilson will carry Maine is the belief of some astute politicians, although at the September election the Republicans, who had agreed to ignore the third party for the time being, carried the Legislature, so that the election of a Republican Senator is assured.

Massachusetts for Taft.

Of Massachusetts there appears to be little doubt, some of the ablest Democratic leaders admitting privately that Taft is certain of the state's eighteen votes. President Taft carried the state over Mr. Roosevelt in the preferential primary last spring, it will be remembered, and there is every indication that he will carry it over both opponents this fall.

Vermont and New Hampshire.

Vigorous campaigns have been conducted in Vermont and New Hampshire, and in the September election the Vermont Legislature went Republican, so that a Republican Governor was elected by a joint ballot of the Legislature, although he had failed to secure a majority of the votes cast.

F. W. Estabrooke, national committeeman from New Hampshire, has taken personal charge of the campaign in that state, which has been conducted with the utmost snap and vigor, and he asserts that there is not the slightest doubt that New Hampshire will give her four electoral votes to Mr. Taft.

Connecticut and Rhode Island Tafts.

For a time the prospects looked somewhat blue from a Republican viewpoint in Connecticut. This is no longer the case. The fight there has been made chiefly on the tariff. The Democratic tariff bills vetoed by President Taft have been analyzed and their potential effect on Connecticut industries has been made so clear that many

Democratic workmen will, it is contended, vote for Mr. Taft this year rather than face the inevitable reduction of wages which would follow the election of Mr. Wilson. The fight in Connecticut has been led by Representative E. J. Hill, who has fought like a Trojan and to whom great credit will be due if the Nutmeg State gives its seven votes to Mr. Taft.

Both Claiming Illinois.

Both parties claim Illinois vociferously, but from inside and dependable sources it is learned that both are greatly in the dark regarding the outcome in that state. On the fact that Illinois gave Mr. Taft a majority of nearly 100,000 four years ago, the Republicans largely base their confidence for this year. They do not believe that so large a majority can be overturned, although they admit it is likely to be largely reduced.

Illinois has been one of the chief battlegrounds of the third party, and Mr. Roosevelt, it will be recalled, received a large primary vote in that state in comparison with Mr. Taft. On the other hand, the total primary vote comprised only a small percentage of the voters. The fact that two Senators are to be chosen by the Illinois Legislature makes the state election all the more important, and the vigorous contest which is being conducted will hardly end until the polls open on Election Day.

Third Party Checked in Indiana.

In Indiana the third party, led by ex-Senator Beveridge, who is himself a candidate for Governor, made great headway for a time, but that has now been checked and it is generally conceded that Mr. Taft is gaining rapidly. Republicans in charge of the campaign in the state are convinced that they will win, a conviction which becomes converted largely into a hope by the time it has filtered through the heads of the leaders of the national party.

The popularity of Governor Marshall is an element of strength to the Democrats, and they are convinced that Indiana may safely be placed in the Democratic column.

Ohio Counted for Taft.

All recent reports from Ohio indicate that Mr. Taft's own state will give him twenty-four votes. There are some bad spots in the state, but the exposure of Mr. Roosevelt's bad faith with regard to Canadian reciprocity and his treatment of the negroes in his personally conducted convention at Chicago have both had their effect.

Where the influence of the papers controlled by Dan Hanna is extensive the opposition to the President is still strong. On the other hand, very effective work has been done by the Prosperity League, organized in Cincinnati, and the old soldiers are standing solidly for President Taft and R. B. Brown, the Republican candidate for Governor.

Missouri Turning to Taft.

Governor Hadley and his fellow workers in Missouri are confident that state will be found in the Taft column. They say that since the Governor has declared himself for Taft the third party has become too attenuated to be discerned by the naked eye. Furthermore, Governor Wilson is far from popular in the home of Champ Clark, and great numbers of Democratic farmers will vote for Mr. Taft.

Kansas Probably Democratic.

There are a few enthusiastic leaders who claim that Kansas will be found in the Republican column, but there is every reason to believe that their optimism exceeds their good judgment. The politics of the state were tied into a double bow knot by the long continued refusal of the Republican electors, who vowed they would vote for Roosevelt if elected, to get off the ticket. They were finally compelled to do so by the force of public opinion, but intense bitterness had been engendered.

Republicans Count on Iowa.

In Iowa the campaigning of Senator Kenyon, a Progressive and a candidate for re-election; the bumper crops, the general indifference of the farmers to the call of the Bull Moose, or "the loose bull," as they say in that country, have lent encouragement to the leaders, and it is believed by them that Iowa will be found in line, casting her thirteen votes for William Howard Taft.

Wisconsin Wants no Change.

Wisconsin also is a state in which the desire to preserve the prevailing prosperity is strong, and that is making for the success of Mr. Taft. There, too, the resentment engendered by the treatment of a favorite son is playing a large part. There appear to be few supporters of Senator La Follette who will vote for Mr. Roosevelt, while there is little prospect of any defection of sufficient proportions to overthrow the eighty-one thousand majority which Wisconsin gave to Mr. Taft four years ago.

There are great numbers of thrifty Germans in Wisconsin, and while they have all along supported Senator La Follette and have been an element of his strength, they are little disposed to vote the Democratic ticket and take the chance of bringing about hard times or even a temporary serious financial depression. The Republican leaders are confident that Wisconsin's thirteen votes will be cast for Mr. Taft.

Minnesota Reckoned as Safe.

The same confidence which prevails with regard to Wisconsin is also felt with regard to Minnesota. To the minds of the Republican leaders the strongest indications that Minnesota is certain to give her twelve electoral votes to Taft is found in the recent statements of Governor Eberhard and Senator Knute Nelson, both influential Scandinavians, both certain of re-election themselves, but both of whom were hopeless of carrying Minnesota for Mr. Taft earlier in the campaign, and somewhat chary of coming out too strongly for him until they were convinced that he would receive the support of a majority of the voters.

Minnesota Gave Mr. Taft a Majority of Eighty-Six Thousand in 1908.

Two years ago the Democratic and insurgent spirit ran strong in the state, but in the opinion of Mr. Nelson both have reached their climax and are rapidly subsiding, to the obvious advantage of Mr. Taft.

Big Taft Majority in Michigan.

All the reports received at the national headquarters from Michigan are to the effect that the insurgent wave is receding and that the President will receive a majority of from fifty thousand to seventy-five thousand in that state. There, as in other border states, Canadian reciprocity played an important part early in the campaign, and there, as in other states, the exposure of Mr. Roosevelt's course with respect to that policy has caused a revulsion of feeling, a revulsion which has been greatly promoted by the able address of ex-Governor Bacheiler, of the National Grange. There, too, bumper crops are playing their part, and if the predictions of the local authorities can be taken at even half their face value Mr. Taft will have a big majority. The Bull Moose legislative ticket is only half filled, insuring the re-election of Senator Smith.

West Virginia Uncertain.

There is one Eastern state regarding which comparatively little is known and regarding which it is wholly unsafe to venture any predictions. That is West Virginia. The reports from there are extraordinarily conflicting. Some of the local leaders maintain it is certain to give a majority to Mr. Taft and others that it should be placed in the Wilson column. West Virginia has only eight votes in the Electoral College, and to whom they will go will probably remain a matter of pure speculation until the ballots are counted.

Maryland in Taft Column.

The Republican leaders are counting on Maryland to give her eight electoral votes to Mr. Taft. They admit that Mr. Roosevelt was strong there at the time the primaries were held, but they contend that his treatment of the negro delegates at Chicago, where the Progressive steam roller ruthlessly crushed all negro delegates from the Southern states, thus practically sanctioning Southern disfranchisement, has alienated almost the solid negro support of Maryland, where Mr. Roosevelt secured a majority of the delegates, although he did not receive a majority of the Republican vote cast.

Governor Goldsborough has been doing excellent work in the campaign, and he is in large measure responsible for the optimistic views which the Republican National Committee entertains regarding his state.

Delaware in the Balance.

Little Delaware, with its three electoral votes, also hangs in the balance. The fact that Mr. Roosevelt, or his managers, has tried to regualize the old J. Edward Addicks machine under the name "Progressive" has caused a serious setback to what once looked like a sturdy third term movement, but the state is naturally Democratic, and it would cause no surprise to see its electoral vote given to Wilson.

Tennessee and Kentucky for Wilson.

The third party movement in Tennessee was almost stillborn and did not survive the first perilous hours of its infancy, but that affords little encouragement to Republicans, and there is every reason to believe that Tennessee will remain a part of the "solid South," while the same is true of Kentucky, although the Republicans may secure a few members of the House from that state.

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Idaho Also Republican.

Idaho is not equally certain, but Senator Borah, a prominent Progressive, is now supporting the President and conducting a vigorous campaign for his own re-election. Here, too, the tariff is of the utmost importance to the industries of the state, and it is, therefore, with entire confidence that the Republican leaders put the state in the Taft column.

Confident of Washington.

Sam Perkins, national committeeman, and other leaders in Washington contend that there is no doubt whatever regarding the vote of that state. They report that the people of the state are highly indignant at the statements made by Mr. Roosevelt in connection with the delegates from that state to the national convention, which they describe as wholly unwarranted misrepresentations, and they assert that subsequent popular votes have shown the Roosevelt strength to have diminished almost to the vanishing point. Furthermore, according to all reports, Mr. Roosevelt seriously injured his standing with the voters on the occasion of his recent trip through the state. A recent primary in Seattle (King County) showed the Roosevelt vote to be only one-tenth of the total Republican strength.

Republicans Claim Oregon.

Oregon is claimed by the Republican leaders with some show of confidence and largely on the dual ground that Senator Bourne was defeated in the primaries and that Mr. Roosevelt sadly disappointed and even angered many persons when he made his trip through the state.

There was serious trouble over the electors in this state, but that has been finally settled by the resignation of some of the electors and by an agreement from the one remaining Roosevelt man similar to that reached in South Dakota.

The Senatorial situation in Oregon is badly mixed up, Ben Selling, who beat Senator Bourne in the primaries, running as the Republican candidate; Mr. Bourne running as an independent; Harry Lane running on the Democratic

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